

help find employment. He did so and is now employed at Bosma Enterprises. Kevin says that the instruction he received taught him "to live on his own and to have a whole new outlook."

Kevin is not alone, earlier this year I was able to visit Crossroads Industrial Services and see firsthand the impact of the AbilityOne Program on not only its employees, but also the impact it has on our men and women in uniform. Crossroads employees are responsible for producing items that our service members rely on, like ballistic helmet pad sets, combat identification panels, and rocket launcher spare parts. It is with these important contributions that Crossroads, like Bosma, exemplifies the quality of work and determination to enhance the lives of disabled Americans that make the AbilityOne Program so invaluable.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I extend my support to the AbilityOne Program. I also want to commend the dedication and commitment to Jim Vento of Easter Seals Crossroads, Lou Moneymaker of Bosma Industries, and their staffs, for helping individuals who are blind or have a significant disability find employment. The impact of their work and that of each AbilityOne employee has an undeniably positive impact on our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF REVEREND
MARVIN McMICKLE, PH.D.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 16, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Reverend Marvin McMickle and congratulate him on his retirement after twenty-four years of service as the pastor of Antioch Baptist Church in Cleveland, Ohio. Rev. McMickle will become the president at Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School.

Rev. McMickle was born in 1948 in Chicago, Illinois. He was ordained as a reverend in New York City in 1973. Rev. McMickle served as the pastor of St. Paul Baptist Church in Montclair, New Jersey and as the associate pastor for the Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York City prior to becoming the pastor of Antioch Baptist Church in Cleveland, Ohio in 1987.

In addition to being a staple in Cleveland's spiritual community, Rev. McMickle is also a major influence in academia and politics. He earned his undergraduate degree from Aurora College, a Master of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary, a Doctor of Ministry degree from Princeton Theological Seminary and a doctorate in philosophy from Case Western Reserve University. Over the years, Rev. McMickle has taught at several colleges and universities including Ashland Theological Seminary, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland State University, Fordham, Princeton and spent a semester as a visiting professor at Yale University.

Rev. McMickle has served as president of Shaker Heights School Board and Montclair Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). He has also served on the boards of Greater Cleveland Roundtable, United Pastors in Mis-

sion, Urban League of Greater Cleveland, Gateway Economic Development Committee and United Way Services of Greater Cleveland.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in thanking Rev. Marvin McMickle for more than two decades of leadership and service to the congregation of Antioch Baptist Church and residents of Cleveland. I wish him luck in his new position.

INTRODUCING WHITE HOUSE CON-
FERENCE ON HAITI ACT OF 2011

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 16, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the White House Conference on Haiti Act of 2011. This important piece of legislation would call on the President of the United States to convene a White House Conference on Haiti within the next calendar year.

As we are all well aware, in January of last year, a 7.0 magnitude earthquake rocked the already struggling nation of Haiti. Approximately three million people were affected and 230,000 are estimated to have died. Those who survived continue to face unimaginable conditions with a crumbling infrastructure and recurring Cholera outbreaks.

If there is a silver lining to this unimaginable tragedy, it is that out of this, the Haitian people have been given the incredible opportunity to right the wrongs of the past and rebuild their nation stronger than ever before. Millions of dollars in aid have flooded into the country and thousands of aid organizations are committed to building a sustainable recovery.

Immediately following the earthquake, we all witnessed countless foreign governments and aid organizations pledging to stand with Haiti, and I have been inspired by the countless individuals throughout the globe who have donated their talents and services to the recovery and the many more who are eager to help, but simply don't know how.

We cannot let this opportunity go to waste. However, with the possibility to do good comes the very real possibility of waste, duplication, and inefficiencies in the rebuilding and recovery process.

Under this bill, the major stakeholders in the rebuilding, along with other interested parties, will come together to share their knowledge and best practices and identify gaps in the recovery process. It is my hope that out of this Conference, opportunities for collaboration and coordination in projects big and small will emerge.

The Conference will also highlight innovative ideas for rebuilding and redevelopment in Haiti. From inexpensive hurricane and earthquake proof housing and green building techniques to sustainable economic practices and urban development. There are countless companies and individuals who have developed groundbreaking concepts in response to this tragedy, but they have yet to be connected with those who can put these ideas into practices or with others pursuing similar goals who may be able to improve upon their initiatives. Innovation does not happen in a bubble; great things can happen when great minds come together.

Further, Haitians living abroad are eager to help their brothers and sisters in Haiti, but many simply do not know where to begin. The White House Conference on Haiti will tap the immense resource that is the Haitian Diaspora by bringing their abilities together with those who are in a position to use them.

Most importantly however, the White House Conference on Haiti will help ensure that the challenges facing the Haitian people remain in the public eye and in the minds of all Americans.

While the United States has been instrumental in the recovery and rebuilding from countless natural and man-made disasters throughout the world, few international tragedies have had as deep an impact on the United States, and particularly the State of Florida, as this one.

Helping our Haitian neighbors is not only the right thing to do; it is also in our own nation's best interests. Just a stone's throw from our shores, instability in Haiti impacts our own economy and immigration levels.

Our nation's rapid, comprehensive response, from our government down to everyday Americans, has been commendable, but the President and this administration are in a position to do more. This legislation would not be a costly endeavor, but could stand to save millions of dollars that could be used to improve the lives of the Haitian people for generations to come.

At a time of continued instability and crisis, the United States must do all within its power to help ensure a long-term sustainable recovery for Haiti.

I ask my colleagues to support this legislation and urge the House Leadership to bring it swiftly to the House floor for consideration.

IN HONOR OF RADIO STATION
KZRG'S RESPONSE TO THE JOP-
LIN TORNADO

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 16, 2011

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the service of one of the 7th District of Missouri's radio stations, KZRG.

KZRG is an AM radio station broadcasting from Joplin, Missouri that does news broadcasting for Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Kansas, or as they call it, "the four state" area.

On May 22, 2011, an EF-5 tornado struck Joplin, Missouri, devastating a once quiet Missouri town. On that Sunday evening, Joplin was forever changed. Much was destroyed. Family, friends, neighbors, homes and businesses disappeared in the blink of a tornado's eye. After the winds stilled, over 160 people, 8,000 homes and 500 businesses were lost.

The early days were tough. Shock and disbelief, chaos and devastation, but out of that wreckage came hope and inspiration. We found out there are a lot of heroes in Joplin. During those dark hours they stood up and came to the aid of their community when their neighbors needed them most. There is no better example of that than the associates at KZRG.

Despite the fact that seven KZRG associates lost homes during the tornado, despite